

IN THE CLAIMS

1.-13. (Canceled)

14. (New) Process for metallizing an article comprising a first high temperature polymer material, including the following steps:

- a) cleaning and degreasing the article;
- b) activating by etching the article surface with a plasma gas;
- c) grafting the activated surface with metallic atoms;
- d) metallizing the grafted surface by immersing the article in a chemical metallizing bath at a temperature ranging from 50 to 70°C.

15. (New) Process according to claim 14, wherein the plasma gas is nitrogenous plasma gas.

16. (New) Process according to claim 15, wherein the plasma gas is chosen among N_2 , NH_3 or N_2+H_2 or a mixture thereof.

17. (New) Process according to claim 16, wherein the plasma gas further includes an inert gas.

18. (New) Process according to claim 1, wherein the metallic atom is chosen among a metal of group VIII.

19. (New) Process according to claim 18, wherein the metallic atom is palladium.

20. (New) Process according to claim 19, wherein the step c) consists of immersing the plasma treated article in a metallization bath comprising palladium ions.

21. (New) Process according to claim 20, wherein the metallization bath is $PdCl_2$ or $PdSO_4$ bath.

22. (New) Process according to claim 1, wherein prior to step d), the activated article is treated with a reducing chemical bath.

23. (New) Process according to claim 22, wherein the reducing chemical bath comprises hypophosphite, formaldehyde or hydrosulphite as reducing agent.

24. (New) Process according to claim 14, wherein the high temperature polymer material is chosen among semi-crystalline polymers or liquid crystal polymers or polybutylene terephthalate (PBT) or polyphenylene Sulphide (PPS) or syndiotactic polystyrene (SPS).

25. (New) Process according to claim 14, wherein prior to step a) or after step a) the first high temperature polymer material is partially moulded with a further polymer material to expose a portion of the first high temperature polymer material.

26. (New) Process according to claim 14, wherein after step b), the first high temperature polymer material is partially overmoulded with a further polymer material to expose a portion of the first high temperature polymer material.

27. (New) Process according to claim 25, wherein process parameters are chosen so as to only enable metallization of the exposed portion of the first high temperature polymer material.

28. (New) Process according to claim 26, wherein process parameters are chosen so as to only enable metallization of the exposed portion of the first high temperature polymer material.

29. (New) Process according to claim 27, wherein the process parameters are chosen among:

- number of activation cycles before grafting
- duration of metallizing step

- stirring rate of the metallization bath
- temperature of the metallization bath
- chemical composition of the metallization bath.

30. (New) Process according to claim 28, wherein the process parameters are chosen among:

- number of activation cycles before grafting
- duration of metallizing step
- stirring rate of the metallization bath
- temperature of the metallization bath
- chemical composition of the metallization bath.

31. (New) Process according to claim 14, wherein the chemical metallizing bath is a nickel or copper bath.

33. (New) Metallized article obtained by the process according to claim 14.

34. (New) Metallized article obtained by the process according to claim 25.

35. (New) Metallized article obtained by the process according to claim 26.